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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Statistical Reporting Service, U. S. D. A.

Washington, D. C.

SS-230

January 19, 1962

December Closes Out A Good 1961 Crop Year

Farmers took full advantage of relatively mild early December days to push the delayed crop harvest toward completion. Snow and cold stopped field work, by the end of the month, with winter care of livestock taking most of the farmers' attention. In a few States, some corn, cotton, and other late crops still remained unharvested at the end of December. Livestock are reported as holding up well in spite of severe weather in some areas. Cold waves reaching into the deep South in late December and early January, did only limited damage to the Florida citrus crop but set back tender vegetable crops. Heavy snows in the mountain areas brought a promise of more favorable water reserves for the 1962 season.

Hay Stocks Above Average--Pasture Feed Limited

Hay supplies at the start of the 1961-62 feeding season were at record high levels as the 1961 crop (third highest of record) was combined with a large carryover of hay from earlier years. Feeding needs prior to January 1, 1962 were above average so that tonnage of hay on farms on January 1, was 3 percent below last year but 6 percent above average. Farm stocks were above average in all regions and above last year in all areas except the North Central States.

Little Damage To Fall Sown Grains

December brought the first severe winter weather to the important winter wheat areas of the Central Plains, with below normal temperatures arriving during the second week of the month and record lows at some points in the third week. Snow preceding or accompanying the cold waves gave generally adequate cover and damage to small grains was light.

Winter Vegetables Under Last Year

Production of winter vegetables is expected to be 3 percent less than last year but 6 percent more than average. Major vegetables with substantial decreases are celery and tomatoes while lettuce will also be in shorter supply. Materially larger output of carrots is expected with a slightly larger tonnage of cabbage.

Winter Potato Estimate Unchanged

Winter potato production for 1962 is estimated at 4,155,000 hundredweight, unchanged from the December 1 forecast. This production is 16 percent less than the 4,967,000 hundredweight harvested last year and 4 percent below the 1951-60 average of 4,327,000 hundredweight.

Prospective Acreage Of Spinach

A total of 8,200 acres of winter spinach for processing is in prospect for 1962 according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is 15 percent less than the 9,700 acres planted in 1961 and 12 percent less than the average of 9,280 acres planted. Acreage reductions are anticipated this year in both Florida and California.

December Milk Production Higher

December milk production, continuing at a record level, was up 3 percent from a year earlier and 11 percent above the 1950-59 December average.

Poultry And Egg Production Up

The Nation's farm flocks laid 5,163 million eggs during December--about 2 percent more

Prices of Farm Products

| Commodity | Average Prices received by farmers | | Effective parity prices Based on data for Dec., 1961 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Nov. 15 1961 | Dec. 15 1961 | |
| Basic commodities: | | | |
| Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.).....ct. | 33.11 | 31.79 | 38.96 |
| Wheat (bu.).....dol. | 1.87 | 1.89 | 2.39 |
| Rice (100 lb.).....dol. | 5.36 | 5.23 | 6.04 |
| Corn (bu.).....dol. | .938 | .947 | 1.62 |
| Peanuts (lb.).....ct. | 11.2 | 11.4 | 13.0 |
| Designated nonbasic commodities: | | | |
| Butterfat in cream (lb.).....ct. | 60.7 | 61.1 | 75.2 |
| Milk, wholesale (100 lb.).....dol. | 4.56 | 4.49 | 5.13 |
| Wool (lb.).....ct. | ¹ 40.5 | ² 40.8 | 75.2 |
| Other nonbasic commodities: | | | |
| Barley (bu.).....dol. | 1.00 | 1.01 | 1.25 |
| Cottonseed (ton).....dol. | 52.40 | 51.50 | 62.80 |
| Flaxseed (bu.).....dol. | 3.12 | 3.16 | 3.81 |
| Hay, baled (ton).....dol. | 20.50 | 20.70 | 25.40 |
| Oats (bu.).....dol. | .643 | .659 | .843 |
| Potatoes (cwt.).....dol. | 1.24 | 1.17 | 2.46 |
| Rye (bu.).....dol. | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.48 |
| Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).....dol. | 1.63 | 1.65 | 2.48 |
| Soybeans (bu.).....dol. | 2.27 | 2.30 | 2.90 |
| Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol. | 4.19 | 4.97 | 5.65 |
| Oranges, on tree (box).....dol. | 2.05 | 2.34 | 2.41 |
| Apples, for fresh use (bu.).....dol. | 2.27 | 2.35 | 2.70 |
| Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol. | 19.90 | 20.50 | 23.80 |
| Calves (100 lb.).....dol. | 23.70 | 24.10 | 26.30 |
| Hogs (100 lb.).....dol. | 15.70 | 16.10 | 21.40 |
| Lambs (100 lb.).....dol. | 15.10 | 15.50 | 25.30 |
| Chickens, all (lb.).....ct. | 11.6 | 14.3 | 25.2 |
| Eggs (dozen).....ct. | 36.0 | 35.0 | 47.1 |

¹Preliminary

²Does not include incentive payment.

than in December 1960. Increases were 13 percent in the South Central, 10 percent in the South Atlantic, and 6 percent in the West. These increases were partially offset by decreases of 3 percent in the North Atlantic and in the West North Central and 1 percent in the East North Central. Aggregate egg production in 1961 was 61,274 million eggs or about the same as produced in 1960.

January 1 Potato Stocks

Total storage stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers in the fall producing areas of the country on January 1, 1962 amounted to 120.9 million hundredweight, according to the Crop Reporting Board.

These stocks were 15 percent above the January 1, 1961 holdings of 105.0 million hundredweight and 12 percent above the January 1, 1959 stocks of 107.9 million hundredweight.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

| Item | 1960 | | 1961 | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| | Dec. | Year | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
| | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹ .. | 61.1 | 61.0 | 61.9 | 62.1 | 62.0 |
| Farm employment | 5.2 | 7.1 | 8.1 | 6.3 | 5.1 |
| Family | 4.3 | 5.2 | 5.7 | 4.9 | 4.1 |
| Hired | 1.0 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 1.0 |
| Index numbers (1947-49 = 100) | | | | | |
| Industrial production ² | 156 | 164 | 171 | 173 | 175 |
| Total personal income payments ³ .. | 199 | 198 | 209 | 211 | -- |
| Weekly factory earnings ⁴ | 163 | 173 | 179 | 182 | 181 |
| Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴ | -- | 173 | 182 | 184 | 184 |
| Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴ . | 120 | 120 | 119 | 119 | 119 |
| Farm commodities | 89 | 89 | 87 | 88 | 88 |
| Food, processed | 109 | 108 | 108 | 108 | 109 |
| Consumer price index ⁴ | 128 | 126 | 128 | 128 | -- |
| Food | 121 | 120 | 121 | 120 | -- |
| Index numbers (1910-14 = 100) | | | | | |
| Prices received by farmers | 242 | 238 | 240 | 238 | 240 |
| Crops | 217 | 221 | 226 | 223 | 224 |
| Food grains | 204 | 203 | 217 | 218 | 219 |
| Feed grains and hay | 141 | 151 | 154 | 149 | 150 |
| Cotton | 243 | 254 | 286 | 280 | 269 |
| Tobacco | 517 | 500 | 537 | 530 | 544 |
| Oil bearing crops | 217 | 214 | 242 | 248 | 250 |
| Fruit | 248 | 236 | 228 | 209 | 217 |
| Commercial vegetables | 220 | 227 | 195 | 213 | 213 |
| Livestock and products | 263 | 253 | 252 | 250 | 255 |
| Meat animals | 298 | 296 | 297 | 291 | 299 |
| Dairy products | 278 | 259 | 274 | 275 | 273 |
| Poultry and eggs | 178 | 160 | 141 | 140 | 146 |
| Prices paid by farmers | 275 | 275 | 276 | 276 | 277 |
| All commodities | 291 | 290 | 291 | 291 | 292 |
| Used in living | 265 | 265 | 265 | 265 | 267 |
| Used in production | 298 | 299 | 301 | 301 | 302 |
| Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)... | 613 | 631 | 635 | 635 | 635 |
| Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted Parity ratio (prices received to parity index) | 81 | 80 | 80 | 79 | 79 |

¹ Bureau of the Census.

² Federal Reserve Board.

³ Department of Commerce.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted.

Onion Stocks, January 1

Stocks of sound onions in storage (common and cold storage) were 21 percent smaller than the holdings of a year ago. Holdings of 4,358,000 cwt. were 11 percent below average. Supplies in common storage at 4,114,000 cwt. were 20 percent below a year earlier, and cold storage stocks of 244,000 cwt. were 40 percent smaller than a year ago.

Farm Stored Feed Grains 4 Percent Under Last Year

Total tonnage of the four feed grains stored on farms on January 1 was 4 percent less than the record level of a year earlier but 24 percent greater than the 1951-60 average January 1 holdings.

Food Grain Stocks On Farms Down 16 Percent

Food grain stocks on farms dropped 16 percent below January 1 a year ago but were 2 percent above the ten-year average.

January 1 Stocks On Farms

CORN: Corn stocks on farms January 1, 1962, estimated at 3.0 billion bushels, were 1 percent below the record volume of a year earlier but 31 percent above average.

WHEAT: Wheat stocks on farms, placed at 359 million bushels, were 15 percent less than a year earlier but 2 percent above average.

Livestock and Livestock Products

| Item | Unit | Jan.-Nov. 1960 | Jan.-Nov. 1961 | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Dairy Production | | | | |
| Milk..... | Bil. lb. | 1,122.9 | 1,124.9 | |
| Evaporated whole milk..... | Mil. lb. | 2,037.7 | 1,994.9 | |
| Dry nonfat milk solids | (for human food)..... | Mil. lb. | 1,684.6 | 1,845.5 |
| Butter, creamery | Mil. lb. | 1,264.0 | 1,368.8 | |
| Cheese, American | Mil. lb. | 920.0 | 1,063.9 | |
| Ice cream..... | Mil. gal. | 654.7 | 654.9 | |
| Poultry Production | | | | |
| Eggs | Billions | 1,614.4 | 1,613.3 | |
| Federally inspected slaughter: ² | | | | |
| Chickens..... | Mil. lb. | 3,753.0 | 4,372.4 | |
| Turkeys..... | Mil. lb. | 823.4 | 1,118.2 | |
| Poultry canned and used in other processed foods | Mil. lb. | 358.1 | 547.9 | |
| Liquid egg..... | Mil. lb. | 568.3 | 601.2 | |
| Dried egg (egg solids) | Mil. lb. | 44.8 | 50.6 | |
| Frozen egg..... | Mil. lb. | 354.1 | 352.9 | |
| Meat Production (dressed weight)³ | | | | |
| Beef..... | Mil. lb. | 13,225 | 13,750 | |
| Veal..... | Mil. lb. | 945 | 888 | |
| Pork | Mil. lb. | 9,906 | 9,774 | |
| Lamb and mutton..... | Mil. lb. | 693 | 755 | |
| Total red meat..... | Mil. lb. | 24,769 | 25,167 | |

¹ January - December.

² Ready-to-cook.

³ Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

OATS: Oats stocks on farms, estimated at 694 million bushels, were 9 percent less than last year and 15 percent below average.

SOYBEAN: Soybean farm stocks, were a record high of 263 million bushels, 53 percent above last year and 89 percent more than the average for January 1.

SORGHUM: Sorghum farm stocks totaled 151 million bushels, 31 percent below January 1, 1961, but 57 percent above average stocks for January 1.

BARLEY: Barley farm stocks totaled 179 million bushels, 13 percent below 1961 but 10 percent above average.

FLAXSEED: Flaxseed stocks on farms, estimated at 6.7 million bushels, were 28 percent less than a year earlier, and 49 percent below average.

HAY: Hay on farms totaled 80.3 million tons, 3 percent smaller than a year earlier, but 6 percent more than average.

CITRUS: The 1961-62 orange crop is expected to total 127 million boxes--10.3 million boxes more than last season and 2.9 million boxes more than average.

EGGS: Eggs produced in December totaled 5.2 billion, 2 percent more than December 1960, and 3 percent more than the 10-year average for the month.

Citrus Increases Over Last Year

The 1961-62 orange crop forecast remains at 127 million boxes, 9 percent larger than last year and 2 percent above average. All States except California expect more oranges than last year.

The 1961-62 grapefruit crop is forecast at 46.6 million boxes, 8 percent larger than last year and average. Florida, California, and Arizona expect more grapefruit than last season. Nearly one-fourth of the grapefruit crop had been harvested by January 1, somewhat more than a year earlier.

The lemon crop is forecast at 17.4 million boxes, 23 percent greater than 1960-61 crop and 16 percent above average. In both California and

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

| Year and month | Retail cost ¹ | Farm value ² | Farm-retail spread | Farmer's share |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1960 average..... | \$ 1,052 | \$ 408 | \$ 644 | 39% |
| 1960 November..... | 1,065 | 421 | 644 | 40% |
| 1961 October..... | 1,054 | 397 | 657 | 38% |
| 1961 November..... | 1,045 | 395 | 650 | 38% |

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

Arizona the quantity picked to January 1 was greater than a year ago.

The estimated production of Florida tangerines remains unchanged from December at 3.8 million boxes, down 22 percent from the previous year. Even though the crop is smaller, the quantity picked to January 1 was somewhat greater than a year earlier. About 80 percent of the tangelo crop had been harvested by January 1. The total crop is estimated at 800,000 boxes, up 300,000 boxes from last year.

Cash Receipts from farm marketings, by States, November 1961¹

| State | Livestock and Products | Crops | Total |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 1,000 Dollars | 1,000 Dollars | 1,000 Dollars |
| Maine | 9,339 | 2,642 | 11,981 |
| New Hampshire..... | 3,932 | 994 | 4,926 |
| Vermont | 9,657 | 906 | 10,563 |
| Massachusetts | 9,168 | 6,215 | 15,383 |
| Rhode Island | 1,444 | 554 | 1,998 |
| Connecticut | 8,316 | 6,599 | 14,915 |
| New York | 52,859 | 14,492 | 67,351 |
| New Jersey | 13,599 | 8,107 | 21,706 |
| Pennsylvania | 49,845 | 14,550 | 64,395 |
| Ohio | 51,479 | 33,427 | 84,906 |
| Indiana | 57,039 | 45,243 | 102,282 |
| Illinois | 100,674 | 71,925 | 172,599 |
| Michigan | 32,166 | 35,082 | 67,248 |
| Wisconsin | 80,336 | 10,935 | 91,271 |
| Minnesota | 89,068 | 54,897 | 143,965 |
| Iowa | 186,090 | 52,893 | 238,983 |
| Missouri | 68,939 | 77,096 | 146,035 |
| North Dakota | 19,420 | 29,186 | 48,606 |
| South Dakota..... | 48,721 | 9,786 | 58,507 |
| Nebraska..... | 69,724 | 37,805 | 107,529 |
| Kansas | 49,606 | 38,671 | 88,277 |
| Delaware | 5,262 | 7,278 | 12,540 |
| Maryland | 14,090 | 12,971 | 27,061 |
| Virginia | 25,257 | 52,781 | 78,038 |
| West Virginia | 7,773 | 2,703 | 10,476 |
| North Carolina | 26,908 | 80,312 | 107,220 |
| South Carolina..... | 10,102 | 32,727 | 42,829 |
| Georgia | 31,252 | 33,555 | 64,807 |
| Florida..... | 19,616 | 37,841 | 57,457 |
| Kentucky | 26,264 | 58,639 | 84,903 |
| Tennessee | 21,267 | 70,426 | 91,693 |
| Alabama | 24,760 | 49,853 | 74,613 |
| Mississippi | 22,258 | 134,629 | 156,887 |
| Arkansas | 22,753 | 147,617 | 170,370 |
| Louisiana | 11,997 | 61,083 | 73,080 |
| Oklahoma | 29,910 | 22,069 | 51,979 |
| Texas | 83,953 | 178,559 | 262,512 |
| Montana | 28,613 | 17,747 | 46,360 |
| Idaho | 16,917 | 41,672 | 58,589 |
| Wyoming | 17,196 | 7,835 | 25,031 |
| Colorado | 41,800 | 31,680 | 73,480 |
| New Mexico | 24,976 | 22,352 | 47,328 |
| Arizona | 16,358 | 57,344 | 73,702 |
| Utah | 12,668 | 4,536 | 17,204 |
| Nevada..... | 5,046 | 1,496 | 6,542 |
| Washington | 18,989 | 32,059 | 51,048 |
| Oregon | 17,408 | 18,590 | 35,998 |
| California | 113,113 | 304,824 | 417,937 |
| United States | 1,707,927 | 2,075,183 | 3,783,110 |
| U. S. Jan.-Nov. | 17,710,274 | 13,852,226 | 31,562,500 |
| Same period, year ago | 17,340,272 | 13,452,362 | 30,792,634 |

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

| Item | November 1961 | December 1961 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| CASH RECEIPTS | | |
| Total marketings and CCC loans ² | Mil. dol. | Mil. dol. |
| Livestock and products | 3,783 | 3,200 |
| Meat animals | 1,708 | 1,500 |
| Dairy products | 1,015 | |
| Poultry and eggs | 388 | |
| Other | 290 | |
| Crops | 15 | |
| Food grains | 2,075 | 1,700 |
| Feed crops | 121 | |
| Cotton (lint and seed) | 275 | |
| Oil-bearing crops | 674 | |
| Tobacco | 371 | |
| Vegetables | 114 | |
| Fruits and tree nuts | 127 | |
| Other | 146 | |
| Government payments | 247 | |
| Grand total | 3,995 | |
| VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS: | | |
| All commodities | 1947-49 = 100 | |
| Livestock and products | 176 | 145 |
| Crops | 152 | 131 |
| | 209 | 163 |

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.



Sheep And Lambs On Feed Down 6 Percent

The number of sheep and lambs on feed for market on January 1 was 6 percent less than last year, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The number is estimated at 4,165,000 head--246,000 head less than a year earlier.

Weather conditions to January 1 in most parts of the country were unfavorable. Forage in some of the West was snow covered during parts of December. Wheat pasture development has been slow in the Southern and Central Plains. Feed supplies were generally abundant in the Corn Belt.

Farm Employment Decline Continues

Farm work was near the low point of the year during the farm labor survey week of December 24-30. The estimated number of persons working on farms that week totaled 5.1 million. Of this number nearly 4.2 million were members of farm families. Hired farm workers were estimated at slightly over .9 million. Compared with a year earlier the total number of workers was down almost 3 percent. Family workers were less numerous by 3 percent. The December survey week again found a much smaller number of hired workers than in previous months but exceeded the 1960 period by 1 percent.

Farm Wage Rates Rise Slightly

January 1962 farm wage rates showed slight but consistent increases over a year earlier. The U. S. composite rate per hour of 93.2 cents edged about 3 percent above the 1961 average of 90.9 cents.

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